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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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Action

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Control: 8249

Rec'd: November 14, 1961

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FROM: Helsinki

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 237, November 14, 7 p.m.

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 237; INFORMATION STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 46, COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 43, OSLO PRIORITY 39, BONN PRIORITY 39, MOSCOW PRIORITY 53, LONDON PRIORITY 177, PARIS PRIORITY 48.

Reference: EMBTEL 236, November 14.

At time statement released to foreign press government spokesman available for questions but little additional information forthcoming.

Following account of what transpired passed on to Embassy press officer by American newsman present at session. Spokesman refused comment on reports that Gromyko told Karjalainen that present Finnish Government on too narrow base and should be expanded to support continued neutral stance. When asked how long Soviet military has been urging military consultations, spokesman made clear this had taken place within Soviet Government and that Finnish Government not approached this score prior receipt note.

Spokesman announced that Prime Minister will address nation on radio, perhaps television, tonight for ten minutes at 2210 hours. Also government has asked for parties views by 1900 hours since government meets with President at 2000 hours. Spokesman asked why hurry, did emergency exist. He replied to effect there no emergency but government wanted to get things moving.

GUFLER

MRJ

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